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Introduction to special issue of *Serials Review* devoted to metrics and scholarly communications

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Introduction

I am excited to bring you this special issue devoted to metrics and scholarly communications.

The idea for this issue of *Serials Review* was developed by the Serials and Other Continuing Resources Section (SOCRS) of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). Altmetrics, Bibliometrics, and other types of metrics are areas of special interest and expertise of the section members. For IFLA's 83rd World Library and Information Conference held in Wrocław, Poland in August 2017, the theme of the SOCRS's open session was "Altmetrics: It's Time to Take Action." Members of SOCRS were reviewers for many of the issue's articles. The articles are grouped around the following four themes: strategies and tools for metric studies, journal metric case studies, discipline metric analyses, and altmetrics and open access.

Strategies and tools used with metric studies

In their article, "Cited Reference Analysis in a National Laboratory to Assess Journal Usage," Tyler Martindale and Brienne Yancy sought to assess the value provided by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory library's collections. They performed a cited reference analysis on the publications originating from the institution to provide the necessary data for the assessment, as well as to aid in the creation of

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a core list of journals which will inform future collection development efforts. Pam Cipkowski and Katherine Fish's article, "The Case for Context in Journal Evaluations" reports on surveying University of Wisconsin-La Crosse faculty and instructional staff to generate a list of journals essential to teaching and research. The objective of Vladimir S. Lazarev and Inna V. Yurik's article, "Serials Metric Studies Performed at the Academic Library to Improve Scholarly Communication of the Library Users (Experience and Opinion of the Scientific Library of the Belarusian National Technical University)," was to consider current experience of metric evaluations of serial publications carried out by academic libraries and to develop recommendations for conducting of such evaluations. To achieve this objective, relevant publications were reviewed and the experience of the Scientific Library of the Belarusian National Technical University was summarized. Jia-Fen Wu and Hsin-Luen Tsai's article introduces a bibliometric analysis and visualization software package called Histcite™, outlines its modifications, and gestures to possible applications. Irene Barbers, Franziska Stanzel, and Bernhard Mittermaier's article, "Open Access Monitor Germany: Best Practice in Providing Metrics for Analysis and Decision-Making" describes the Open Access Monitor Germany (OAM), which provides libraries, funders, and researchers with a freely available tool that records the publication output of German academic institutions in scientific journals and makes that data searchable and accessible.

Journal metric case studies

Ramphul Ohlan, Rajbir Singh, Sharanjeet Kaur, and Anshu Ohlan's article, "A Bibliometric Analysis of First 45 Years of *Journal of Management*," provides a comparative picture of bibliometric profiles of select top-tier journals in the field of management sciences. It investigates the leading trend occurring in the *Journal of Management* between 1975 and 2019. José Satsumi López-Morales's article describes the bibliometric analysis of articles published in *Journal of International Business Studies* between 1970 and 2020. In their article, "Scholarly Research of Corporate Social Responsibility and Environmental Management: A Comprehensive Bibliometric Analysis,"

Ramphul Ohlan, Anshu Ohlan, and Sudesh Chhikara describe their investigation of science mapping, knowledge domain, and leading research trends that appeared in the journal *Corporate Social Responsibility and Environmental Management*. All articles and reviews published in the journal between 2003 and 2021 were included in their investigation.

Discipline metric analyses

Stephen Woods and John Russell's article, "Examination of Journal Usage in Rural Sociology Dissertations Using Citation Analysis," explores journal citations from 62 doctoral dissertations in rural sociology from 2004 to 2021 at the Pennsylvania State University. In their article, "Faculty Use of Subscribed Journals in a Spanish Library Consortium: Downloads and Citations in the Field of Psychology," Andrés Fernández-Ramos, Crispulo Travieso-Rodríguez, and Blanca Rodríguez-Bravo describe their analysis of bibliographic references used in psychology-related publications of the four universities that make up a library consortium in Spain in Scopus and compare this data with downloads of journals included in Springer, Elsevier, Wiley, and Emerald big deals subscribed to by this consortium. Fatemeh Fadavi Hoseini and Ali Mansouri's article, "The Role of Articles in Science-Technology Relationship: A Topic Analysis of Non-patent Literature (NPL) References," investigates the thematic relationship between patents and their NPL references in the field of Nanotechnology.

Altmetrics and open access

Érika Demachki and João de Melo Maricato's article, "Coverage of Data Sources and Correlations Between Altmetrics and Citation Indicators: The Case of a Brazilian Portal of Open Access Journals," examines the coverage of data sources and the relationships between bibliometric citation indicators and the altmetric indicators of articles and journals published in the open access Journal Portal of the Federal University of Goiás. Farshad Baroonzadeh, Maryam Shekofteh, Maryam Kazerani, and Cirruse Salehnasab's article, "Mendeley Readers of Highly-Cited

Articles in Medical Sciences: Is It Correlated With Citations?” investigates the correlation between the number of Mendeley readers and the number of citations in highly-cited medical articles.

I hope you find this special issue interesting, informative, and helpful and that the articles serve to inspire further exploration and research into the many issues surrounding metrics and scholarly communications.

Sincerely,
Margaret Mering, Guest Editor
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